Reflections on MDE from ICSI / SRI

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We are making progress…

- Accomplished our first complete MDE eval cycle!
  - Put in place task definitions, tools, data, …
  - Though amidst much chaos, and still require debugging, refining
- Embarked on interesting & profitable research lines
- Forged a strong MDE community *[per aspera ad astra?]*

However,
- This year's evaluation was more "dry run" than "eval"
- Most infrastructure was too late and too unstable to support solid research

For This Next Year

We need…

- First and foremost: *STABILITY!* to do solid, sustained research
- Some small tweaks / bug fixes immediately to improve quality of resources and provide more stable base for '04 research
- More (and more representative) data to fuel the research effort
- Time – to support MDE exploration, improve analysis, increase understanding

Planning for Future Efforts

- We need to start planning now for future steps, e.g.
  - non-English languages
  - expanded tasks (such as richer Edit structure)

  Plan for spec, pilot, maybe even dryrun, in '04 – formal eval in '05

- We need better coordination / interaction with the STT community (tighter integration, not further separation)
  - Within site: reasonable level of interaction
  - But programmatically: increasingly decoupled (workshops, resources, priorities)

  Need to find good balance to support focused activities yet meet global goals, program requirements